

**WDFW Reply to Ecology re DNS #13-070 Swannack Bass and Bluegill Plant Feustal Lk.**

**From:** Osborne, Randall S (DFW)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 30, 2013 8:42 AM  
**To:** Costello, Terri (ECY)  
**Cc:** Zeigler, Robert C (DFW)  
**Subject:** Comment on DNS #13-070 Swannack Bass and Bluegill Plant Feustal Lk.

Terri,  
Thank you for taking the time to comment on DNS#13-070.

WDFW predicts no impacts on the wetland areas at Feustal Lake from planting largemouth bass and bluegill. Largemouth bass and bluegill are not "rooting" species and should have no effects on the vegetation at that lake. Both of those species spawn in the spring and early summer by seeking out shallow areas, typically along the shoreline. These species generally form saucer-shaped depressions in sandy or gravel substrate in which to spawn, but would not disturb rooted vegetation. Both species would likely utilize the fringes of wetland areas for feeding, however, neither species feed on vegetation.

Discussions with Mr. Swannack indicate that no impacts would occur to wetland areas during the stocking process. These fish will be shipped to Mr. Swannack in small containers which he will walk to the lake shoreline on foot. No vehicles will enter wetland areas. Mr. Swannack informed WDFW that he will stock these fish near a small rock bluff area on his property. Walking the containers of fish to the water's edge, via the edge of the bluff area, will have no effects to wetland areas.

Thank you again for your comments. Please feel free to contact us if you have additional questions.

Randall Osborne  
District 2 Fisheries Biologist  
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  
2315 N. Discovery Place  
Spokane Valley, WA 99216  
(509) 892-1001 ext. 302